

## Report of the Executive Manager – Operations and Transformation

### 1. Summary

- 1.1. The last report to the Community Development Group was in February 2017. The report and presentation from the Economic Growth Manager and Officer provided detail about the work that was being delivered against the agreed priorities.
- 1.2. The Community Development Group supported the proposed actions and priorities for the coming year, and recognised the work undertaken to progress the strategic priority within the resources available.
- 1.3. Since the last report an Economic Growth Intern has been appointed to support the Economic Growth Team.
- 1.4. This report gives an update on the work done by the Economic Growth Team and the priorities for 2018/19. It will be accompanied by a presentation which will be given by the Economic Growth Manager and Officer.

### 2. Recommendation

It is RECOMMENDED that

- a) Members endorse the actions and priorities proposed for the coming year; and
- b) Members recognise the work officers are doing to progress this strategic priority within the resources available.

### 3. Supporting Evidence

- 3.1. The priorities presented to Community Development Group in February 2017 included:
  - The establishment of a further Growth Board in East Leake
  - Progress the work of the West Bridgford and Bingham / Radcliffe on Trent Growth Boards.
  - Submit final business cases to secure Growth Deal money for 2017/18 (for the A46 corridor schemes)

- Promote and maximise local benefit of external funding and support via D2N2 Growth Hub
- Deliver the Cotgrave regeneration scheme
- Work with developers on bringing forward strategic employment sites via developer forums
- Work with the N2 Economic Growth Officers to deliver the N2 Growth strategy.
- Support the Chief Executive on the Skills Agenda
- Deliver the Digital Growth Programme in Rushcliffe.
- Deliver the Careers and Enterprise Company initiative.
- Deliver the projects which have been awarded funding from the Notts Pre Development Fund
- Market the employment land acquired in Bingham
- Secure funds from Highways England to progress the RAF Newton site.
- Support Notts County Council with further rollout of the Broadband programme.

3.2. The presentation will provide more detail about the work that has been completed, is being delivered and is planned against all of these priorities.

3.3. The following priority areas of work have been identified for 2018/19:

- Deliver the Cotgrave regeneration scheme including the progression of phase 2 of the scheme
- Progress the work of the local and strategic growth boards
- Work with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to explore options for the reallocation of Growth Deal funding.
- Continue to work with D2N2 Growth Hub and Rushcliffe Business Partnership to deliver workshops and provide support to local businesses.
- Work with the N2 Economic Growth officers to support the Notts Chief Executives group and N2 Economic Prosperity Committee.
- Continue with the delivery of the Digital Growth Programme in Rushcliffe.
- Delivery of an action plan for the employment and skills partnership, to include
  - Delivery of the Careers and Enterprise Company
  - Delivery of European Social Fund projects; Moveahead and Stayahead
  - Implementation of Construction Industry training Boards Client Based Approach on development sites
- Draw down funds for remaining projects which have been awarded funding from the Notts Pre Development Fund
- Work with developers to draw down funding (Growth and Housing Fund and Housing Infrastructure Fund) secured for strategic sites.
- Progress funding application with Highways England to support infrastructure works at Fairham Pastures.

#### **4. Risk and Uncertainties**

The Economic Growth Team works with colleagues across the Council and the County to maximise the value that can be brought to economic growth work. Some projects (e.g. bringing forward development sites) can be long term and take significant support and negotiation. Where possible the Council will seek further external funding to help secure growth opportunities.

#### **5. Implications**

##### **5.1. Finance**

Significant external funding has been secured including Growth Deal funding, Notts Pre Development funds, Growth and Housing funding from Highways England and Housing and Infrastructure Funding from Homes England. The team will be working with developers to draw down this funding before 2021.

There is a commitment to contribute to the Digital Growth Programme which was launched in February 2017 and also to the Careers and Enterprise Company initiative.

In order to ensure that sufficient resources are available to fund necessary work or activities, £100,000 was allocated from the New Homes Bonus reserve to support the Growth Boards. This is managed and allocated through the Strategic Growth Board. Some of this funding has been spent but there is £60,854 remaining in the budget.

Financial implications of projects are reported in the Medium Term Financial Strategy and ongoing financial reports to Cabinet and Corporate Governance Group.

##### **5.2. Corporate Priorities**

Supporting economic growth to ensure a sustainable, prosperous and thriving local economy is identified as a corporate priority within the Corporate Strategy 2016 - 2020.

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<b>Background papers Available for Inspection:</b>	None.
<b>List of appendices (if any):</b>	None.